



2829

[02207/10551]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : S. SAMAAAN et al.
Serial No. : 09/855,050
Filed : May 14, 2001
For : **A DEVICE AND METHOD FOR PROBING
INSTANTANEOUS HIGH-SPEED LOCAL SUPPLY
VOLTAGE FLUCTUATION IN VLSI INTEGRATED
CIRCUITS USING IR EMISSIONS**
Art Unit : 2829
Examiner : Jimmy Nguyen

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL

SIR:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified patent application is a Response to an Office Action.

While no fees are believed to be due, the Commissioner is authorized, as appropriate and/or necessary, to charge any fees (including any Rule 136(a) extension fees) or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
KENYON & KENYON

Dated: 5/7/03

By: Howard I. Grossman
Howard I. Grossman
(Reg. No. 48,673)

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Date: 5/7/03
Signature: Elizabeth V. Lent



[2207/10551]

Response
#4
5-13-03
J. Antier

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Date: *5/7/03*

Signature: *Elizabeth Volant*

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on March 13, 2003, please reconsider
the above-identified application based on the following.

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 18 are currently pending in the present application.

Claims 1-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as
being indefinite. In particular, the Office Action states that it is unclear how a voltage
probe is coupled to a source of a local supply voltage. It is also stated that the Examiner
considers the local supply voltage to not be incorporated in a VLSI IC because it must
be provided externally from "an outside power supply."

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner is interpreting the term "local
supply voltage" without reference to the specification. It is well known in the art that IC
circuit components, such as field effect transistors, may be coupled, *within the IC*, to a
supply voltage V_{cc} rail at their respective drains. This supply voltage rail is clearly
incorporated with the VLSI IC in order to provide electrical power directly to the circuit
components of the IC. As an example, the specification describes a voltage probe that

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